President’s Report

Faculty Senate

March 11, 2013

* The institution made its budget presentation to the System Board Staff March 7. Outline of presentation is included. We will likely hear nothing more in this regard until the General assembly passes the state budget, usually on the last day of the session. March 7 was day 30 of the legislative session.
* Some of you (and other faculty) will be receiving electronic surveys from ModernThink. We have agreed to participate once again in the Chronicle on Higher Education’s Best Colleges and Universities in America. Whether we are named or not, the data provides incredibly useful information of areas of improvement for the university. If you should be asked, please consider taking some time to participate, or urging colleagues to do so.
* Thanks in advance to the senate for addressing issues referenced at our meeting 2 weeks ago—namely implementation strategies for the recently approved modifications of the Promotion and Tenure Documents; and review of the definition of an electronic quorum in the present on-line voting procedures.
* The State House has approved the proposed transfer of authority for the state archives from the Secretary of State to the University Board of Regents. While there is speculation to date of our institutional role should that transfer be approved, nothing has yet been settled. Faculty in archival studies, as well as academic, business and operations and IT officers have been engaged in conversations that will prepare us to leverage these changes in ways that will benefit our campus and community, among other beneficiaries. See speculative coverage at
* <http://www.news-daily.com/news/2013/mar/07/hed-house-oks-state-archives-transfer/>
* In case you had not read coverage of Georgia House action on gun regulations on campus, this link from the **Atlanta Journal Constitution** should be informative. <http://www.ajc.com/news/news/state-regional-govt-politics/house-says-yes-to-expanded-gun-rights/nWkhT/>
* American Council of Education ACE—The major discussion items at this conference concerned issues of costs and “bending the higher education cost curve.” There were broad discussions about technology and the implications for educational outcomes. The inevitable nature of change, and change strategies for universities (especially like ours) to be able to communicate our continued importance in these times of change. Our SACS work on students learning and engagement, as well as efforts for continuous improvement in ways we explore “high impact educational practices” will, if implemented, help us distinguish ourselves during these challenging times. The academic leadership and campus faculty are to be thanked.
* We will be scheduling a campus open meeting on the Budget sometime before the end of the semester. More as the plans become more concrete.
* Thanks
* Questions?